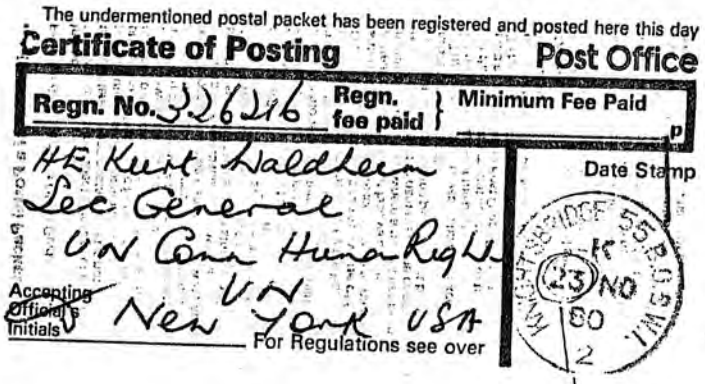
المجلس الإسلامي الأوروبي

**Islamic Council of Europe**

25th November, 1980




H.E. Mr. Kurt Waldheim
Secretary General
United Nations Commission on
Human Rights
The United Nations
New York, N.Y.10017
U.S.A.

Excellency,

Following the recent coup in Turkey, the military government arrested many people. Some among them are accused of terrorist activities. Their arrest and trial is understandable.

What is most disturbing is that the military government has also arrested some people for their political beliefs and legitimate political activities. Included in this category are Dr. Necemittin Erbakan, a member of Parliament, Chairman of National Salvation Party and former Deputy Prime Minister, and his political colleagues. According to reliable reports the trial of Dr. Erbakan and his colleagues by a special court is imminent.

Actually 25-11 — Post office error!

The most disconcerting thing about the proposed trial is that the accused will have no right of appeal against verdict of the trial court. This is against all principles of justice.

In your capacity as Secretary General of United Nations Commission on Human Rights, I request you to take all such steps that you may consider necessary to halt the proposed trial and secure the release of Dr. Erbakan and his colleagues as well as all others in a similar situation.

In case the government insists on trials.then you might like to send an observer to attend the trials.

I am confident that you will give your serious and urgent consideration to this matter and do all that is necessary to ensure that human rights are not violated and ends of justice are fully met.

Assuring you of my highest esteem,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

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I look forward to your reply and to hearing your voice, as Secretary General of your highly respected and prestigious organisation, added to those already urging the release of the leaders of the National Salvation Party.

Finally, I should like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your co-operation in the past om matters which jointly reflect our mutual interest in serving the cause of human rights.

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam
Secretary General